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Leaves of Healing



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Pictorial Report of General Overseer Ottersen's Trip

General Overseer and Mrs. Roger Ottersen were recently privileged to lead a missionary tour of the work of the Christian Catholic Church in Japan, the Philippines, and Australia. After several months of preparation and anticipation, the General Overseer and his wife, Gayleene, left Zion early on October 11th for O'Hare International Airport to begin their one and one half week missionary trip. The first stop on their tour was to be Vancouver, British Columbia, where they were met at the airport by Iris Mintern and daughter Marion Pollard. Since a stopover was necessary, the Ottersens were delighted to have a brief afternoon and evening stay and then by noon the next

day traveled back to the airport to continue their journey. While in Vancouver, they were able to enjoy an afternoon visiting a beautiful city park and enjoying a time of fellowship together with Iris, her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Pollard, and their two children, Kevin and Christina. A week or so after their stop there, Marion gave birth to their third child, a little girl named Celia Hannah. At noon on October 12th, Iris bid the Ottersens farewell at the International Airport in Vancouver and they were soon in flight to Tokyo, Japan.

Having crossed the International Date Line, they lost one day arriving on Thursday in Tokyo. After spending a number of hours at the Tokyo Airport, they made their connecting flight to Nagoya. The plane arrived in Nagoya on schedule and after going through customs and immigration details, they were met by Overseer and Mrs. Clark Offner, our missionaries to Japan for 26 years. While in Japan, the Ottersens were able to spend a little time sightseeing at some of the major places of interest in Nagoya and its surrounding area. A great deal of time was spent with Clark and Barb discussing the work of the Lord they have been involved with. On Sunday, October 16th, Overseer Ottersen and Gayleene were

present for the Christian Catholic Church services in Kariya, where



General Overseer and Mrs. Roger W. Ottersen with Overseer and Mrs. Clark Offner standing at the entrance of the Kariya Christian Catholic Church, Japan



Mintern, Vancouver, British Columbia with children: Christina and Kevin Pollard

Pastor Tomita serves. Upon entering the church they were greeted by a lovely, large sign saying, "Welcome, General Overseer Ottersen." Overseer Ottersen was asked to speak and his message was interpreted by Overseer Offner. Following church service the Ottersens took a little time to walk around the church grounds and down the street by business shops. They also spent a few moments viewing the



Fellowship of the Kariya Christian Catholic Church who were present for special dinner in honor of General Overseer and Mrs. Ottersen

Shinto Shrine and Buddhist Temple located near by. During this time, the fellowship of the church was making preparation for the serving of a typical Japanese meal. Following the meal, pictures were taken and a time of sharing took place.



Several at the table at the dinner honoring General Overseer Ottersen at the Kariya Christian Catholic Church



Others of the fellowship of the church in Japan at Kariya



Others of the fellowship of the church in Japan at Kariya

Even though it was quite difficult to communicate because of the language barriers, the warmth of the fellowship was deeply appreciated by the Ottersens. The congrega-

tion presented to them a lovely decorative plate which is called "cloisonne." Later, the Ottersens and Offners were privileged to visit the factory of Ando's cloisonne, which is located in Nagoya. Pastor Tomita gave a beautiful welcome and greeting on behalf of the fellowship in Japan, the opening part of which is printed below:

"My dear friends, we are very glad to have the privilege to welcome General Overseer and Mrs. Ottersen. I wish to thank God for General Overseer's visit to Japan from America. I wish also to thank the Administrative Council for the many favors. Our church has been greatly indebted to Rev. Offner for the spiritual and material support since the church was established twenty one years ago. As you know, we celebrated the twentieth anniversary of founding by Divine providence last year. But, I think we ought to give the gratitude to our benefactors. In this sense, General Overseer's visit will give us an important occasion in affixing the close relation between American mother church and our church."

There was a time of discussion when some of the people were able to share their personal testimonies of faith in Christ and were able to ask several questions about America and about our church. After this delightful experience was concluded, the Ottersens bid farewell and journeyed back to downtown Nagoya with the Offners to be present for the afternoon worship service of the Nagoya Union Church.

This church is a fellowship of English speaking people who unite together in an interdenominational setting for the purpose of worship in English and fellowship together in the things of Christ. It is comprised mainly of those who are serving as missionaries in Japan with several different denominational backgrounds. The fellowship and oneness in Jesus Christ was thoroughly enjoyed. They meet each Sunday afternoon at four o'clock using a downtown church where they hold a regular worship service. Several of the missionaries take turns on a rotating schedule and speak for the worship hour. Twice a month, English speaking Bible school classes are conducted at the close of the worship service which

gives opportunity for the missionaries themselves and their families to intermingle with other English speaking people and share in their worship experience.

After Overseer Ottersen spoke for the afternoon worship service and visited for a few moments with the people, they then had to rush away to get to the Christian Catholic Church at Takahama. Upon arriving there, most of the fellowship had already gathered and were ready for the evening service. At the Takahama church, they do not use chairs, but sit on little pillows on the tatami mats. A number of the fellowship from Kariya had come down to Takahama to take part in this service as well, and a delightful time was enjoyed. It was at this time that Overseer Ottersen presented a slide presentation showing the work of Zion here in America and several of our works in conjunction with headquarters. The fellowship there seemed to enjoy the beautiful pictures of Zion and the work in Michigan City, Phoenix with the Navajo Indians, Camp Zion, and the Zion Passion Play.



Several of the ladies gathered at the Takahama Christian Catholic Church for the Sunday evening service standing with Mrs. Ottersen

At the conclusion of the service some preparations were made for the Ottersens to enjoy a special Japanese tea ceremony. At this time an explanation was given to the Ottersens of the significance and the solemn meaning and purpose of the tea ceremony. At the conclusion of the tea service, the young lady who made the preparations for the ceremony presented the tea cup which was used by the Ottersens as a gift to them, expressing their love and appreciation. Before leaving, several of the members who serve on the board of the Christian Catholic Church in Japan met with the General Overseer to show him a financial chart which showed their budgeting for the last



presentation of the Japanese tea cup used by Overseer Ottersen at the tea ceremony conducted by this young lady at the Takahama Christian Catholic Church on Sunday evening

for or two and the present status of the church.

The Ottersens visited other points of interest in the Nagoya area, including Buddhist temples and shrines and also enjoyed a beautiful "Nagoya Days" in this very large city. Nagoya is the third largest city in Japan. Much of the city was leveled during the Second World War and has been rebuilt. It is a beautiful city.

The Ottersens also enjoyed visiting the Nagoya castle which had been destroyed during the war and had been rebuilt and is now serving as a museum. Being with Clark and Offner gave a beautiful opportunity to discuss the past, present, and future plans of the work there. The Ottersens ask the fellowship around the world to pray that God will bless Pastor Tomita at the Kariya Church and Overseer and Mrs. Offner and they, together with the people there, project future opportunities



Clark Offner and a group of her nursery school students at the Nagoya International Airport

serving Jesus Christ and making it known. There is some consideration being given to relocation in the Takahama area and prayer is requested for guidance.



Pastor and Mrs. Tomita at the Nagoya International Airport bidding farewell to the Ottersens



Overseer and Mrs. Clark Offner at the Nagoya International Airport bidding farewell to the Ottersens

The Ottersens left Nagoya International Airport on October 19th, for Manila, Philippines, having bid farewell to the Offners and Pastor and Mrs. Tomita. At the time of their arrival there was a very heavy downpour of rain and very hot, humid temperatures. After deplaning and going through the necessary customs and immigration regulations, they finally were greeted by about thirty friends with a banner which read, "Welcome General Overseer and Mrs. Ottersen, Christian Catholic Church, Philippines."



Part of the delegation present at the Manila International Airport on the day of the Ottersens' arrival

A very warm welcome was received and pictures were taken at the airport. Rev. Pat Hermosilla, the Elder-in-Charge of the work in the Philippines personally escorted the Ottersens to the Far Eastern Gospel Crusade Guest House which was their residence for the two weeks in the Philippines.

After putting their things in the Guest House and freshening up a bit, they were taken to Rev. Hermosilla's home to have supper with their family. They enjoyed very much the delightful dinner that had been prepared including the national fish of the Philippines, the milk fish. After the meal was completed, a large host from the fellowship at Caloocan and Meyto gathered together for an open house reception to welcome the General Overseer and his wife. At this social gathering, measurements were taken for Mrs. Ottersen and for the General Overseer as a seamstress in the church was preparing a beautiful "Mestiza" dress for Mrs. Ottersen to wear for services later on, and for a "barong" for the General Overseer to wear while preaching. The "barong tagalog" for the Overseer was made by a tailor from the Meyto congregation.

The day after their arrival, the Overseer was able to spend a day in conference with the Elder-in-Charge. Discussion was held concerning the total work of the Christian Catholic Church in the Philippines and the Overseer was appraised of the current situations.



The Elder-in-Charge of the Christian Catholic Church in the Philippines, Rev. Pat Hermosilla and his family

The following day, the Ottersens flew with Rev. Hermosilla to the island of Leyte. They landed at Taclobon and took a jeepney to the downtown bus area and transferred to a Filipino bus and rode for approximately three hours from Taclobon to the barrio of Visares

near Ormoc City. The Ottersens were met at Visares by a delegation of friends from the Christian Catholic Church of Visares, students from the New Zion Academy, and pastors and friends of our Zion work. After greetings were exchanged there, the delegation which came to meet the Ottersens walked with them down the mountain side to the area where the Zion Orphanage and New Zion Academy are located. A larger host of friends was at the gate awaiting the Ottersens to welcome them. At this time, they were privileged to formally meet Rev. and Mrs. Industan, who for many years served as the Elder-in-Charge of the Church in the Philippines. Rev. Industan is now retired but lives nearby the Orphanage and School and is in constant fellowship with the church and school there.



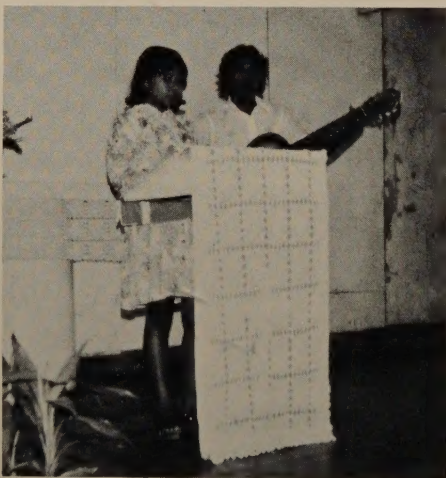
Picture of the front of Zion Orphanage in Visares, Leyte

During these days, the faculty, staff and student body of New Zion Academy had been in the midst of their foundation week activities including athletic events, races, musical contests, etc. The final night had been arranged for that evening when approximately two hundred fifty people gathered in an outdoor area where an outside stage is located, and enjoyed a beautiful program under the stars. The program was opened by the chorus of the New Zion Academy singing the national anthem of the Philippines and then singing The Lord's Prayer as the invocation. They did a beautiful job. During the course of the program, some special musical contests took place as the finalists in the week long contest were viewed. Skits were presented by a number of students of the high school and were also greatly enjoyed. It was a beautiful night under the stars with kerosene lanterns giving light to the stage. A



The Visares, Leyte, Christian Catholic Church, Robin Draper Memorial Chapel at the top of the hill overlooking the Orphanage and Zion Academy

wonderful time was enjoyed by all. Rev. Ottersen was introduced as General Overseer of the church at large at which time he presented the official Christian Catholic Church flag to the Director of the New Zion Academy, Rev. Ellie Mercado. Rev. Mercado graduated several years before from Febias College of Bible and Seminary and had, prior to that, received a degree in business. Rev. Mercado, for the past three years, has been serving as the pastor of the Christian Catholic Church in Visares at the top of the hill near the Orphanage and School and serves as the Director of the New Zion Academy and supervisor of the Leyte churches. The flag was well received and later flown from the flagpole of the Zion Academy.



Young couple singing at the Visares Christian Catholic Church presently serving in charge of the Zion Orphanage

On Saturday business sessions and conferences were held with the pastors of the Christian Catholic Church who had assembled there from Leyte and Mindinao. Because of very severe political unrest on the island of Mindinao,

the Ottersens were unable to go there as scheduled. Instead, cables were sent to the men who serve in that area to come to the Island of Leyte to be with the Ottersens at the Orphanage. Thus, about twenty five pastors and several delegates from the churches at Mindinao were present for two or three days of conference. It was felt that the sessions were meaningful as questions and answers were given and a time of challenge presented for the advancement of the work. On Saturday evening, when it was nearly dark, the pastors and the General Overseer enjoyed a time of volleyball on the grounds of the school.



Interior view of the Visares Christian Catholic Church, Robin Draper Memorial Chapel with the choir singing

Much could be said of the loving concern which was shown for the General Overseer and his wife as they visited this remote area. They do not have the conveniences of electricity and running water, and thus, a great deal of effort went into their hospitality for the Ottersens. A sense of God's love and the warmth of His Spirit were experienced by all concerned. A number of the teachers from Zion Academy spent hours in the cooking area of the Orphanage to take care of the needs not only of the Ottersens, but of approximately thirty others who had come as delegates and pastors to attend the conference there at Leyte. The New Zion Academy has about one hundred twenty five students and there are six members on the faculty. A great deal of dedication is seen in their service for the Lord Jesus Christ and to these young people. The four year high school program makes it possible for these young people in the barrios to attend school who would not otherwise have the opportunity. Several who are involved in the school and orphanage were former

hans themselves who spent at least a part of their life growing up in the Zion Orphanage. Several of the pastors of the Christian Catholic Church, including Rev. Hermosilla, the Elder-in-Charge, spent their growing up years in the orphanage.

On Sunday, Overseer Ottersen spoke for the morning worship service in Visares in the Robin Draper Memorial Chapel. This church, the first to be established by our township in the Philippines was built by memorial funds given by Lucie Draper who gave this gift as a loving memorial for her son, Robin, who had been killed in an airplane crash. The building has undergone a lot of severe weather problems through the years, but it is standing to the glory of God. A goodly number of people attended the services that morning, and at the close of the Overseer's message, Rev. Hermosilla gave a brief summary in Tagalog for twenty five percent of the people who are unable to speak or understand English well. During this service, Rev. Ottersen presented the flag of the Christian Catholic Church to the township and they seemed so



Overseer Ottersen presenting the new Christian Catholic Church flag to Pastor Trinidad for the congregation of the Visares Christian Catholic Church



Overseer Ottersen and Elder Pat Hermosilla calling Pastor Trinidad as Pastor of the Visares Christian Catholic Church

pleased to receive it. He also had the privilege of installing as pastor, Rev. Trinidad, who had served with the church a number of years, but was being officially installed as pastor on this particular Sunday so that Rev. Mercado could spend more time at the Academy and in supervision of other smaller churches in Leyte and Mindinao. Each of the pastors of the Mindinao congregations received a Christian Catholic Church flag to take back to their fellowships as a constant reminder of our love and concern for them. Each were also presented with a tie tac with the Zion shield as a loving gift from the headquarters church and fellowship.



A number of the pastors of the Christian Catholic Church from Mindinao and Leyte. On the far left is Elder Industan who served as the Elder-in-Charge for many years and is now retired and Rev. Pat Hermosilla, present Elder-in-Charge. On the far right is Rev. Ellie Mercado who serves as the Director of the New Zion Academy and Supervisor of the Leyte churches

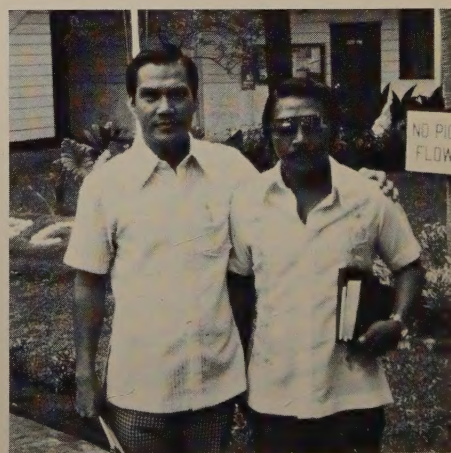
Sunday evening, the 23rd of October, Rev. Ottersen was able to show his slide presentation (without the sound) to a large assembled host of students, orphans and church members and friends from the barrio, as a generator was found with a family nearby who graciously loaned it to us for the occasion. It was a very moving experience to these people to see the slides of the work in Zion and various other parts of the world.

In order to make plane connections on Monday morning, the Ottersens had to leave the Orphanage and school very early in the morning, about 4:30 a.m., to catch the bus to take them to the airport at Taclobon. At 3:30 a.m. that morning they were awakened by several gathered outside their window serenading them. The Ottersens reported being greatly moved with the loving deeds of these dear people. Awakening to the sounds of these friends singing outside their window was an experience

they will never forget. The final song of the three songs sung was "May the Good Lord bless and keep you as you go down life's way." After a very hurried breakfast, these friends as well as others who were awakened, went with the Ottersens up the hillside carrying their luggage, to await the coming of the bus. Two other young men carried wooden chairs up the rocky pathway to the area where the bus would stop, so the Ottersens would have chairs to sit on while awaiting the bus. After bidding farewell to these loving friends, they were on their way moving down the mountain to Taclobon to catch the airplane.

While they were in Leyte there was a large delegation of other Americans there in observance of the thirty fourth anniversary of General Douglas MacArthur's landing during the Second World War to liberate the Philippine Islands. Although a few Americans were seen, most had come a day or two prior to the Ottersen's arrival in Leyte and had left the day before the Ottersens were scheduled to leave. After waiting for a delayed plane, they finally left Taclobon for Manila.

The Ottersens had looked forward to becoming better acquainted with Febias College of the Bible and Seminary and also with Far Eastern Broadcasting Company, and it was a great pleasure meeting with leaders from these organizations. On one particular morning Overseer Ottersen was interviewed over the stations of the Far Eastern Broadcasting Company, telling of the work of the Christian Catholic



Rev. Mike Lacanilao, acting president of the Febias College of Bible and Seminary in the Philippines and on leave from the Far Eastern Broadcasting Company — with Rev. Hermosilla

Church around the world, but particularly in the Philippines. The Ottersens also visited historic and beautiful places in the Philippines. One place they enjoyed was the city of Bagio which is in the northern island of Luzon and is a holiday area for Filipino people to visit and relax in. Word had been sent to Larry and Jan Allen, who serve with Wycliffe Bible Translators further north of Bagio, but connections were very difficult to make and the Ottersens were not able to meet with them as they had anticipated.

While in the Philippines, the Ottersens visited Rizal Park, a beautiful park in downtown Manila near the ocean front. They also traveled to various markets and shops. While in Bagio they visited the presidential summer mansion, and enjoyed other sightseeing excursions. They visited Fort Santiago which was a Spanish fort many years before, and during the Second World War was used as a detention camp by the Japanese occupation forces and then later was used by the American forces as well. A large cross monument is located there where 800 bodies were found in this concentration camp, 600 of which were American soldiers. The monument was erected in commemoration of their dedication to duty. One of the most moving experiences was in visiting the American cemetery where some 17,000 Americans were buried in known graves and some 36,000 were buried in unknown graves. A beautiful monument has been erected there by the United States Government and maintained as a memorial to these men who gave their lives in defense of freedom. The monument included a beautiful mosaic altar and also a large circular building with open columns from floor to ceiling standing fifteen to eighteen feet high on which are engraved all the names of the Americans in known and unknown graves who were buried there.

Because the four days in Mindanao had to be cancelled due to political unrest and fighting there, the Ottersens shortened their stay by several days in the Philippines and sent a cable to Australia that they would be arriving a few days early. On the last Sunday of their visit in the Philippines, the Otter-



The outside view of the Caloocan Christian Catholic Church near Manila

sens had a very busy and meaningful day. They began the day by preaching at the Caloocan Christian Catholic Church which is nearby the greater metro Manila area. A delightful service was held and they enjoyed the fellowship with the people. Again the flag was presented to the congregation. At this particular service, Overseer Ottersen wore his "barong," and Mrs. Ottersen wore her "Mestiza" dress. They also had fellowship with Rev. Tony Villiar and his wife, who are working with Rev. Hermosilla as Pat is often away visiting other churches. Rev. Villiar is also one of the orphans who grew up at the Zion Orphanage. He thanks God for a recent healing after his second major brain surgery due to a brain tumor. He was doing quite well and is being greatly used of God in the work of our church.



The choir of the Caloocan Church singing for morning service led by Rev. Tony Villar

After the service was over and pictures taken and greetings enjoyed, Overseer and Mrs. Ottersen were taken back to the Hermosilla's home where dinner was served. Two taxi cabs, one private car and one jeepney then traveled from Caloocan area out to Meyto to attend an afternoon service. Approximately twenty two went from the Caloocan church, including a number of their church choir. In

Meyto the congregation has been meeting in rented facilities in an underhouse area. Land has been made available in three different sites near this house, and it was the privilege of Overseer Ottersen to travel with the pastor, Rev. Campanie and Rev. Hermosilla to visit these various sites as they are trying to locate the proper place to build their church. This church was given assistance by the mission to purchase land and to build a building. This is done through a matching funds program where after they had raised half of the funds necessary, the mission was able to give assistance for the remaining half. These decisions are made upon the consultation with the council of ministers in the Philippines as they determine the priorities of the work. Following their decision the project must be approved by Overseer Offner, before being presented to headquarters for assistance. After the service at Meyto, two of the homes in the area were opened for members of the fellowship to enjoy a time of supper which was greatly appreciated. The little church was filled and a beautiful spirit was experienced.

The same two taxis, private car and jeepney, very quickly rushed the General Overseer and his wife to the Manila International Airport to catch their plane which was scheduled to leave at nine o'clock in the evening. Upon arriving there, they discovered that it would not have been necessary to travel as quickly as they had, since the plane had been delayed for several hours. Since many of these people had been going all day long, the Ottersens encouraged them not to wait until the midnight departure time. And so, a large circle was formed at the airport entrance, a song was sung, and prayer was offered as they bid farewell to their friends in the Philippines. The Ottersens were very glad that the friends did not stay with them since the plane was further delayed and did not leave Manila until two o'clock in the morning.

The Ottersens arrived in Australia wondering to themselves whether or not the fellowship in Australia had received their cable. Assuming that they had, they left the plane and went through immigration and customs arrangements,

ing forward to seeing the
nds who had come. Since the
e had been delayed so long in
ila, they were concerned that
friends meeting them there
been waiting a long time at the
ort. However, when they arrived
he terminal area after clearing
oms, there was no one to meet
n. As they had feared, the cable
not been received. A phone call
ught a hasty response and soon
y were united with friends. Need-
to say, the Smiths and the
re fellowship were greatly disap-
nted in not being able to give
n the welcome and reception
y had planned.

ater, the Ottersens saw the hand
God in giving them a couple of
cheduled days as they found
y were very tired and needed
time for rest to prepare them
the days of activity and minis-
ahead of them.

n open house reception was
a couple of days later for the
ersens for the fellowship in
ustralia to greet them and the
ersens enjoyed it very much.
beautiful food items and the
owship was very precious.

n their first Lord's Day in
ustralia, they attended Sunday
ool and church at Mt. Evelyn.
ce the origin of the Christian
nolic Church in Australia, most
the work is centered in or
and the greater Melbourne area.
rey Hills is a suburb of Mel-
rne and Mt. Evelyn is a smaller
munity some twenty one miles
ond. Although the work at Mt.
yn Christian Catholic Church
small work, it has great poten-
in that it is in a growing area
re many new homes are being
t. The Ottersens were very
eful for the privilege of fellow-
ing with them there, enjoying
e school and speaking for the
ning worship service. A very
ve group of young girls has
n organized, called the Zion
mbrelettes. The timbrel (or tam-
rine) is used by the girls as they
drill formations in rhythm or
with Christian band music.
y have blue, white and gold
orms and do a very lovely job.
of the things that brought
ouragement to the hearts of the
owship of Mt. Evelyn was that
e the Ottersens were there, be-
en Bible school and the worship

service, two young girls made their
decision to accept Jesus Christ as
Lord and Savior. These girls had
been working with the Zion Tim-
brelettes and their leader, Wendy
Allen, was so very pleased when
they made this kind of commit-
ment. Pastor Noel Smith shared
with the congregation and the
Ottersens the new decision these
girls had made.

Serving at the Mt. Evelyn Chris-
tian Catholic Church is Elder Ray
Uren, who, for a number of years,
had been the Elder-in-Charge. He
shares the preaching responsibility
with a deacon of the church, Mr.
John McKenzie. Besides these two
men, Mr. Bill Allen, also a deacon,
and his family are very active in
the Sunday school and youth work
of the church and together are serv-
ing the Lord for His glory. Pastor
Noel Smith visits from time to
time, and takes part in the services
as well, but the week by week oper-
ation is in the hands of these three
leaders.

That Sunday afternoon the Otter-
sens had a very lovely luncheon at
the Allen residence where the fel-
lowship was invited to attend. Then
a number of the people went with
them to Healsville Sanctuary and it
was their privilege to see the kanga-
roos, the wallabys, the wambat and
also the koalas. They came back to
the Mt. Evelyn Church in time for a
carry-in-tea. This light refreshment
time was enjoyed by a large host of
friends who joined together for a
time of fellowship while the Otter-
sens were there. A number of the
people from Surrey Hills came as
well to enjoy the fellowship time
and join with those at Mt. Evelyn.

That evening, for the service, it
was the Overseer's privilege to show
the slide and sound presentation
which he had brought with him
from Zion depicting the work of
the Christian Catholic Church from
headquarters and some of the work
in the States, which was greatly
appreciated. During the week that
followed, the Ottersens had a very
interesting time visiting several
places of interest. Of particular
interest was a barbeque picnic at
Ballarat, visiting their lovely flower
conservatory, and the shell house.
Fellowship was enjoyed in the
homes of a number of the people
of the church. On one Wednesday
evening, the General Overseer spoke

at the cottage prayer meeting for
the adults and on the following
Wednesday evening was privileged
to speak for the young people's
prayer meeting. There was about
an equal number who attended
each session, and the opportunity
to get to know each of these indivi-
duals in a more personal way was
certainly something that was great-
ly enjoyed.

While in Australia, the Ottersens
were able to become acquainted
with Wes and Marilyn Briggs who
were presently home in the Mel-
bourne area on furlough from their
missionary services at Wongutha
Mission Farm in western Australia.
This is an interdenominational
mission which operates a farm for
teaching and evangelism for the
Aborigine Indian boys. Wes and
Marilyn have been active members
in the Christian Catholic Church,
and Wes serves as a deacon in our
church. They were home on fur-
lough for a short time, and when
hearing of the Ottersen's visit, ex-
tended their stay for another week
or so to be able to meet the Otter-
sens in person. One evening they
came over to the Smith home and
showed slides concerning the work
of the mission they serve with. The
Ottersens were deeply impressed
and pleased with this opportunity
to become acquainted with them
and their work. The Briggs have
two young boys who were anxious
to return back to the farm where
they live.

On one day, the Ladies Guild
of the Christian Catholic Church
had chartered a sightseeing bus and
met early in the morning to go on a
day outing to visit the Dadenong
Mountains to visit the beautiful
look-out sights and points of inter-
est in this mountain chain which
surrounds Melbourne. A beautiful
time of fellowship was enjoyed and
the picnic luncheon took place in a
park before their return. Besides
this group outing with the Ladies
Guild, there was also another out-
ing with a group of friends who
went to a cottage near Marysville
and enjoyed a very pleasant time
for dinner and also a visit to Steaven-
son Falls.

On the final Saturday of their
stay in Australia, November 12th,
the entire church fellowship from
Surrey Hills and Mt. Evelyn gather-
ed together for a picnic at the

Upper Yarra Dam. It is a beautiful site and a very lovely cook-out meal took place.

On Sunday, November 13th, the Ottersens visited the Surrey Hills congregation of the Christian Catholic Church. They attended Bible school classes and Overseer Ottersen preached for the morning service. At the Surrey Hills Church as well as the week prior at Mt. Evelyn, he made the presentation of the Christian Catholic Church flag. It was a beautiful experience to be in worship with these dear friends on the other side of the world and we thank God for the ties that bind us together in Christian love.



Elder Ray Uren and Deacon Bill Allen holding the new Christian Catholic Church flag presented by Overseer Ottersen to the Mt. Evelyn Christian Catholic Church in Australia

After the church service was over, greetings were extended to many of the friends present, pictures were taken, and the Ottersens enjoyed a lovely dinner with the Smith family at their home. They then hurried back to the church for an afternoon business meeting of the Board of Trustees of the churches and also the officers, deacons and deaconesses. At this meeting a report was given from them concerning their work and a time of discussion concerning the church took place. One of the main items discussed was the possibility of broadcasting "Songs of Zion" over a Melbourne station. Also, suggestions were given concerning the helpful advantages of establishing a church budget in their yearly planning. After a time of discussion and fellowship, the Smiths and Ottersens were invited to another church family home for tea (evening supper meal).

Very quickly thereafter, they returned to the Surrey Hills Church for the evening service. At this time the church was filled with the congregation there as well as a number who had come from Mt. Evelyn to be with them for that special occa-



Several visiting together on the steps of the Surrey Hills Christian Catholic Church between Bible School and Church

sion. Other friends and guests were present for the occasion and the Ottersens were delighted with the fellowship time. Once again, Overseer Ottersen was able to give the film/sound presentation of the work of Zion in the United States as well as of Japan and the Philippines, so the churches of Australia were able to have a first hand report of the missionary trip which the Ottersens had just taken. During this service, a very special presentation was given to the Ottersens on behalf of the church fellowship. One of the members of the church at Surrey Hills is a diamond cutter and so the congregation entrusted him with the responsibility of designing a setting for a beautiful Australian opal. He formed it into the shape of our church chancel window in Zion which is symbolized in our new logo "Building on the Word." This was made into a tie tac with a beautiful Australian opal in the center. Mrs. Ottersen also received an Australian opal with a similar design with the "Building on the Word" chancel outline designed in a lovely necklace. These beautiful gifts were given on behalf of the fellowship in Australia and are deeply appreciated.



The young people present at the youth prayer meeting on Wednesday night in Australia

After the Sunday evening service a number of the people of the Surrey Hills congregation and some from Mt. Evelyn, traveled to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wes Blackmore for what they call a "sing around the organ." A beautiful time of fellowship was enjoyed by a large number of the people, both young and old. Because the church service was a little longer than usual with the slide presentation and all the other formalities, the "sing around the organ" time was extended quite late that evening. Once again, warm greetings of Christian love and fellowship were enjoyed while there.



Overseer and Mrs. Roger Ottersen with Elder and Mrs. Noel Smith



Overseer Stanley Smith who for many years was in charge of the Australian ministry, now retired



Rev. and Mrs. Noel Smith in their home preparing to greet friends of the fellowship in an open house reception



and Marilyn Briggs and their two children, and Warick visiting with the Ottersens to their returning to Wongutha Mission as they serve as missionaries in an inter-tribal ministry with the Aborigine people of western Australia

The Ottersen's plane was scheduled to leave Australia the following afternoon at 6:30 and therefore, it was necessary to be there by 5:00. A number of the church fellowship had gathered before 5:00 and many soon after, and stayed with the Ottersens until they finally had to leave to go through the immigration and customs sections at the International Airport. Approximately forty of the fellowship had gathered for this farewell and a time of prayer was held as they met together in the airport facility. After the Ottersens went through the necessary customs and immigration details, they then waited for quite a considerable time in a waiting lounge, due to a mechanical problem which had developed on the plane. Finally, after almost two hours, they were allowed to board the plane and were told it might be some time before takeoff. When finally they were comfortably in their seats in the plane, baggage and suitcases all inside with them, they were served their evening meal. Looking out to the observation section of the airport, they could see this large group of the fellowship waving handkerchiefs and gold, white and blue scarves, bidding them farewell. This went

on for a considerable length of time and on several occasions the captain or someone else from the plane would inform the Ottersens and the other passengers of a further delay. Finally, about 9:30 Overseer Ottersen went to the traffic control personnel of the plane and asked to go out to the observation area. He was told he could not, so he requested that someone be sent up there to tell the people to go home because the plane could be delayed for a considerable length of time. The message was to "Tell the friends that the Ottersens loved them very much but would like them to go home since there would be even further delays." A short time later word was returned to the Ottersens that the crowd refused to leave until they did. What a witness this was to a number of people seated around the Ottersens on the plane who could not believe this crowd of forty some, young and old, standing outside even through some sprinkles



The Zion Timbrettes and their leader, Wendy Smith outside the Mt. Evelyn Christian Catholic Church

and showers, bidding them farewell in such a loving way. Finally, at about 10:30 the captain of the plane spoke over the P.A. system saying they could not repair the difficulty with the electrical system in the brakes and the plane could not leave. Therefore, everyone would have to deplane, go through customs and baggage and get their belongings and would be on their own to make other arrangements for flight the next day. Well, after deplaning they were able to get their luggage and coming through the door of the baggage and customs area, there was this group of people still there, many who had been standing all this time since four or five o'clock, and they were singing, "There's a welcome here, there's a Christian welcome here."

Once again their love and concern was an expression of Christian testimony before a large host of people who were aboard this large 747 plane.

The Ottersens were taken back to the Smith's home and were very surprised to learn from the Smiths on the way home that the crowd was coming to greet them at their home. As they arrived at home, they found that a number had already come and brought food and at that time they had a birthday celebration. Midnight had come and it was Mrs. Ottersen's and Overseer Ottersen's birthday. A great time of fellowship and Christian love was shared, and finally, one by one, the families had to depart and go home.

The next morning arrangements were made for a new booking on a different flight and the Ottersens were re-scheduled to leave Australia on November 15th at 2:45 in the afternoon. Once again, at about one o'clock they arrived at the airport and a host of friends were present who stayed with them until it was time to board the plane and, finally, to leave. Another time of farewell was experienced and they prayed together as they left the friends at the Melbourne airport. They looked out the window of the plane once again to see the same group of people standing on the observation deck waving blue, white and gold cloths and handkerchiefs and bidding them farewell. After arriving back in Zion, a tape was sent by Brian Purcell, one of the members of the church there, who had recorded the various things that were being said by the friends on the deck at the airport and they could also hear the sounds of the plane taking off into the air. It is very difficult to put into words the genuine love that the Ottersens experienced during this brief stay in Australia.

Because of crossing the International Date Line, the Ottersens observed their birthday twice this year, once in Australia on November 15th, and again the following afternoon in Honolulu, though at Honolulu it was still November 15th. They had one day to do a little sightseeing and enjoy a bit of relaxing and pleasure as they observed their birthday once again. This made up for the day which was lost



on Bill Allen speaking before a Sunday school group at the Mt. Evelyn Christian Catholic Church



Mrs. Marjorie Wedderburn, neighbor and member of the Mt. Evelyn Christian Catholic Church with Elder and Mrs. Ray Uren, Elder-in-Charge of the Mt. Evelyn Congregation

on their journey to Japan a little over a month before.

Arriving back in Chicago at O'Hare International Airport on Thursday, the 17th, the General Overseer and his wife were met by their children, and Overseer and Mrs. Leland Barton, Carolyn Dreyer and Saralee Dreyer. Returning to Zion they were reunited in their home and were thankful for several very loving deeds of individuals who had prepared evening supper for them. Back in his office, a large sign read, "Welcome Home Roger and Gayleene" and he was very quickly back in the routine

of his responsibilities. The following evening he had two wedding rehearsals and on Saturday conducted two weddings in the sanctuary of our church.

The Ottersens thank the entire fellowship of the Christian Catholic Church at headquarters and around the world for their earnest prayers during this missionary trip. Only eternity will reveal all the blessings that the trip produced. We are particularly thankful that they were protected over thousands of miles of travel and kept well and strong during a very busy and hectic schedule.

Missionary Trip Brings About Further Expansion of Work

As a result of the recent missionary trip of Overseer and Mrs. Ottersen, our "Songs of Zion" broadcast will now be aired over the Far Eastern Broadcasting Company stations in the greater metro Manila area. These stations include an AM medium wave station and a short wave station beaming north to the northern islands and south to the southern islands as well as a pre-tuned missionary transmission to a number of pre-tuned radio receivers. This broadcasting is scheduled to begin sometime in January and will enable the Christian Catholic Church throughout the Republic of the Philippines to feel the oneness of their fellowship together.

Also as a result of the trip, beginning in February, "Songs of Zion" will be aired over 3UL Warragul which is a radio station in the greater Melbourne area. This will enable the congregations at Surrey Hills and Mt. Evelyn to be included in the international radio voice of the Christian Catholic Church.

"Songs of Zion" began in 1971 on one station. After a number of months, besides the Saturday evening FM broadcast from the Kenosha, Wisconsin station, it began to be heard over the Zion AM station as well. Some time later the opportunity was made available for "Songs of Zion" to be broadcast over a Michigan City, Indiana, station where our fellowship, the Zion Gospel Chapel, is able to be included.

Then, shortly after that, "Songs of Zion" began its broadcasting ministry in Guyana, South America as a result of Overseer Ottersen's visit there in the fall of 1975. Overseer Ottersen had projected a goal of having "Songs of Zion" heard in each of the areas where the Christian Catholic Church has a work. Little by little this goal is being reached, due mainly to the prayer concern of leaders in the various areas. We ask an interest in the prayers of the entire fellowship of the Christian Catholic Church for this radio outreach now beginning in Australia and the Republic of the Philippines. Anyone who desires to contribute toward the expenses of this radio voice of the Christian Catholic Church may send their special contributions to the Christian Catholic Church, Dowie Memorial Drive, Zion, Illinois 60099, U.S.A. Your contribution should be listed as "Songs of Zion" radio fund.

ROGER & GAYLEENE

Welcome Roger to our land

The land that we all love
The land of the flying boomerang
That soars high up above.

Welcome too to Gayleene
We love to have you here
And with a warm hand greeting
And a heart that is sincere.

And to the land of the Wattle
The Heath that grows in the hills,
The beautiful birds that fly so free
With their laughter, chatter and trills.

So welcome to both of you
And may your stay be bright
The days will quickly pass away
But we welcome you tonight.

Ours is the land of the Southern Cross
Yours is the land of Old Glory
You've crossed the sea to visit us
With the Blessed Old Old Story.

So here we are to greet you
With lots of Christian love
And may God always bind us
In Him to meet above.

(Poem written to welcome General Overseer to Australia)
Elder Ray L. Uren
Mt. Evelyn Christian Catholic Church
3/11/77.

IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Clement (Lottie) Mole,
Florida, November 3, 1977
Mrs. Lester (Gladys) Benckendorf,
nee Crispin, Washington, November 23, 1977
Mrs. Thekla Koshel (wife of the late Elder
Anton Koshel), Zion, December 6, 1977
Sean David Morehead (Peterson),
Wauconda, Illinois, December 2, 1977

Fred Faassen, December 12, 1977
Mrs. Edward Sweeney (Ivy), nee McEwen,
December 18, 1977
Raymond Shaver, December 21, 1977,
Michigan City

IT TAKES FAITH

takes faith to live the way we
ot live and to give what we
ot give. Confused? Let me ex-
. The Christian life is a super-
ral life. Only Christ, filled with
Holy Spirit, could live it. To
a life pleasing to God takes
e love and power than any of us
manage. God knew that. In His
om He provided not only
using from sin by the cross of
s, but power for living through
ndwelling Holy Spirit.

*"For the law (principle) of the
pirit of life in Christ Jesus has
ade me free from the law of
n and death."* Romans 8:2

*"Now unto Him that is able
keep you from falling, and to
esent you faultless before the
esence of His glory with ex-
eding joy..."* Jude 24

od's power is available to the
ver, but it must be received
faith.

*"Likewise, reckon ye also
ourselves to be dead indeed
nto sin, but alive unto God
rough Jesus Christ, our Lord."*

Romans 6:11

"reckon" or "count on some-
g" promised by God, takes
a. "Believing is seeing." Taking
r stand with God through His
d is the first step in seeing God
k His will in your life. The
stian life becomes a miracu-
life of

e amidst troubling and fearful
rcumstances,
ty in the midst of powerful
mptations to immorality,
hfulness, when a lie would
em an appropriate out,
e, when encountering hostil-
y or coldness.

IT TAKES FAITH TO GIVE WHAT YOU CANNOT GIVE.

cripture tells of Jesus taking
icular note of how and what
le gave in their offerings to
. He was not impressed with
general giving, but when a poor
ow gave her two mites Jesus
y got excited. Her two mites,
small as likely to be despised by
, was the largest of gifts in the
of God, for she had given her
That kind of giving required

faith. All giving that is pleasing to
God requires faith. Why?

First, because God despises left-
overs. He requires that we give
the "first" part to Him.

*"Thou shalt not delay to offer
the first of thy ripe fruits, and of
the outflow of thy presses: the
first-born of thy sons shalt thou
give unto me."*

*Likewise shalt thou do with
thine oxen, and with thy sheep:
seven days it shall be with his
dam; on the eighth day thou
shalt give it to me."*

*"The first of the first fruits of
thy land thou shalt bring into
the house of the Lord thy God."*

Exodus 22:29, 30; 23:19

Certainly the requirement under
grace could not be less than that
given under law. If Jesus Christ
does take first place in our lives, we
will most certainly show this in the
way we give our offerings to the
Lord. Otherwise, our professed love
for Him is mere empty words —
chaff given to the wind.

Secondly, the amount of offer-
ing that pleases God also takes faith.
God is not satisfied with a simple
collection. An offering that is less
than 10% of our income is robbery
in God's eyes. Our offerings to God
only begin after we have paid our
tithe (10%) to Him. To give regular-
ly this amount takes faith, for
there are always needs and desires
that strongly tempt our using
God's money for other things.
However, when we obey God —
when we really put Him first in our
material resources, God does, in
some way, make it up to us. We can
fully depend on His great promises,
for God does not lie. His word is
true. It is simply for us to "trust
and obey."

*"Will a man rob God? Yet ye
have robbed me. But ye say,
How have we robbed thee? In
tithes and offerings."*

*Bring all the tithes into the
storehouse, that there may be
food in mine house, and test me
now herewith, saith the Lord of
hosts, if I will not open for you
the windows of heaven, and pour
out for you a blessing, that there
shall not be room enough to re-
ceive it."* Malachi 3:8, 10

Another year is dawning,
Dear Master, let it be,
In working, or in waiting,
Another year with Thee.
Another year of mercies,
Of faithfulness and grace;
Another year of gladness
In the shining of Thy face.
Another year of progress,
Another year of praise,
Another year of proving
Thy presence all the days.
Another year of service,
Of witness of Thy love,
Another year of training
For holier work above.
Another year is dawning,
Dear Master, let it be,
On earth, or else in heaven,
Another year for Thee.

— Francis Ridley Havergal

CONGREGATION VOTES TO EXPAND FACILITIES

At a congregational meeting on
December 11, 1977, the members
of the Christian Catholic Church in
Zion were asked to express their
opinion concerning expanding their
facilities to provide for an indoor
auditorium to continue presenta-
tions of Zion Passion Play as well
as serving many other uses. The re-
sults were as follows:

125 — strongly in favor	— 32%
145 — in favor	— 37%
10 — no opinion	— 3%
84 — opposed	— 21%
29 — strongly opposed	— 7%

With over two-thirds (69%) of
the congregation expressing in favor
of building expansion, a mandate
was given to the Administrative
Council and the Board of Trustees
to work toward a building design
and its funding. It is hoped that by
the mid-year business meeting,
March 12, 1978, sufficient facts
will be available to make a final
decision as to whether or not to
proceed with building plans.

Earnest prayer is requested of all
for wisdom and guidance from God
in these pursuits. We desire His will,
for His glory, and for the blessing
of His people and that many others
might come to the knowledge of
His salvation.

"Let us Exalt His Name Together"

Psalm 34:3

ZION'S WATCHWORD FOR 1978

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